



Department of Fisheries  
Government of Western Australia



*Fish for the future*

Our Ref: 841/01-07

Mr A Mozqueira  
Sustainable Fisheries Section  
Department of the Environment and Heritage  
GPO Box 787  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Antonio

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PEARL OYSTER FISHERY**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004, the then Minister for the Environment and Heritage wrote to the Western Australian Minister for Fisheries advising that he is satisfied that the management arrangements for the Western Australian Pearl Oyster Fishery meet the requirements for Part 13 and 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and proposed to accredit the management arrangements accordingly. This accreditation was conditioned with a number of recommendations for the action of the Department of Fisheries (Attachment 1).

The Department of Fisheries WA (DFWA) would like to advise you on the status of implementation of Recommendations 1 and 2 which were agreed to following the assessment of the WA Pearl Oyster Fishery under Part 13 and 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

On 4 June 2004, the Pearling Industry Advisory Committee (PIAC) considered the amended Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD) Report which included timeframes for the completion of performance measure breach reviews (Attachment 2). It also considered the inclusion of the operational objectives, reference points and performance measures into Ministerial Policy Guideline 17 – Pearl Oyster Fishery (MPG 17). PIAC resolved to support the inclusion of the ESD report of the new amended report in MPG 17 and sought the Ministers approval for the inclusion of the report in MPG.

The then Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on 9 August 2004 amended MPG17 to include the operational objectives, reference points and performance measures (Attachment 3). As a result, the DFWA has met the recommendations sought by the Department of Environment and Heritage.

In addition, the DFWA has also met Recommendation 3, as the ESD Report for the fishery will be published within the next week. This will be made available to the public in both hard copy and electronic formats.

The DFWA will continue to keep your Department informed on any changes to the Pearling Act, Ministerial Policy Guidelines or managerial commitments in the DFWA ESD report. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms Victoria Weir on (08) 9482 7377.

Yours sincerely

  
for P P Rogers  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

30 January 2005

Atts.